

Growing Up With Pets Fact File: *Intestinal Parasite Prevention*

Intestinal parasites are a chief concern for veterinarians who recognize that these living organisms are detrimental to pets and people. They live within an animal. Often referred to as worms, common species include roundworms, hookworms, whipworms and heartworms.

How to Detect Parasite Infection

- Intestinal parasites can infect pets through contaminated soil, bedding, food or water, mosquitoes, from mother to puppy, through feces, and by fleas, birds and rodents.
- Typical signs that a pet has intestinal parasites include:
 - Decreased appetite
 - Bloody stools
 - Diarrhea
 - Decreased activity level
- Roundworms can cause “pot bellies” in puppies and inhibit growth.
- Protect your pet against parasites by using products like SENTINEL[®] Flavor Tabs[®].
- Have your veterinarian test your pet’s stool sample every six to 12 months.

Parasite Sites

- Parasites are found all around the world and can exist in cold climates and live through hard winters; eggs can remain for up to three years in soil. (longer for whipworms)
- Even clean environments can host parasites.
- Parasites are also found in back yards that aren’t clear of pet feces.
- Uncovered sand boxes can host parasites.

Health & Hygiene

- Wash hands often, especially after playing with pets and before eating.
- Use a “pooper scooper.”

Growing Up With Pets is sponsored by SENTINEL[®] (milbemycin oxime /lufenuron) Flavor Tabs[®], which provides parasite protection in a formulation that is convenient and safe for use in households with children.

Always test dogs for heartworm prior to using SENTINEL[®] Flavor Tabs[®]. A small percentage of treated dogs can experience digestive, neurological and skin side effects. See label for full product information. To locate a veterinarian that dispenses SENTINEL[®] Flavor Tabs[®], call Novartis Animal Health, U.S., Inc. customer service at (800) 332-2761.

